

# REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 25th February 1893.

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## URIA PAPERS.

Nil.

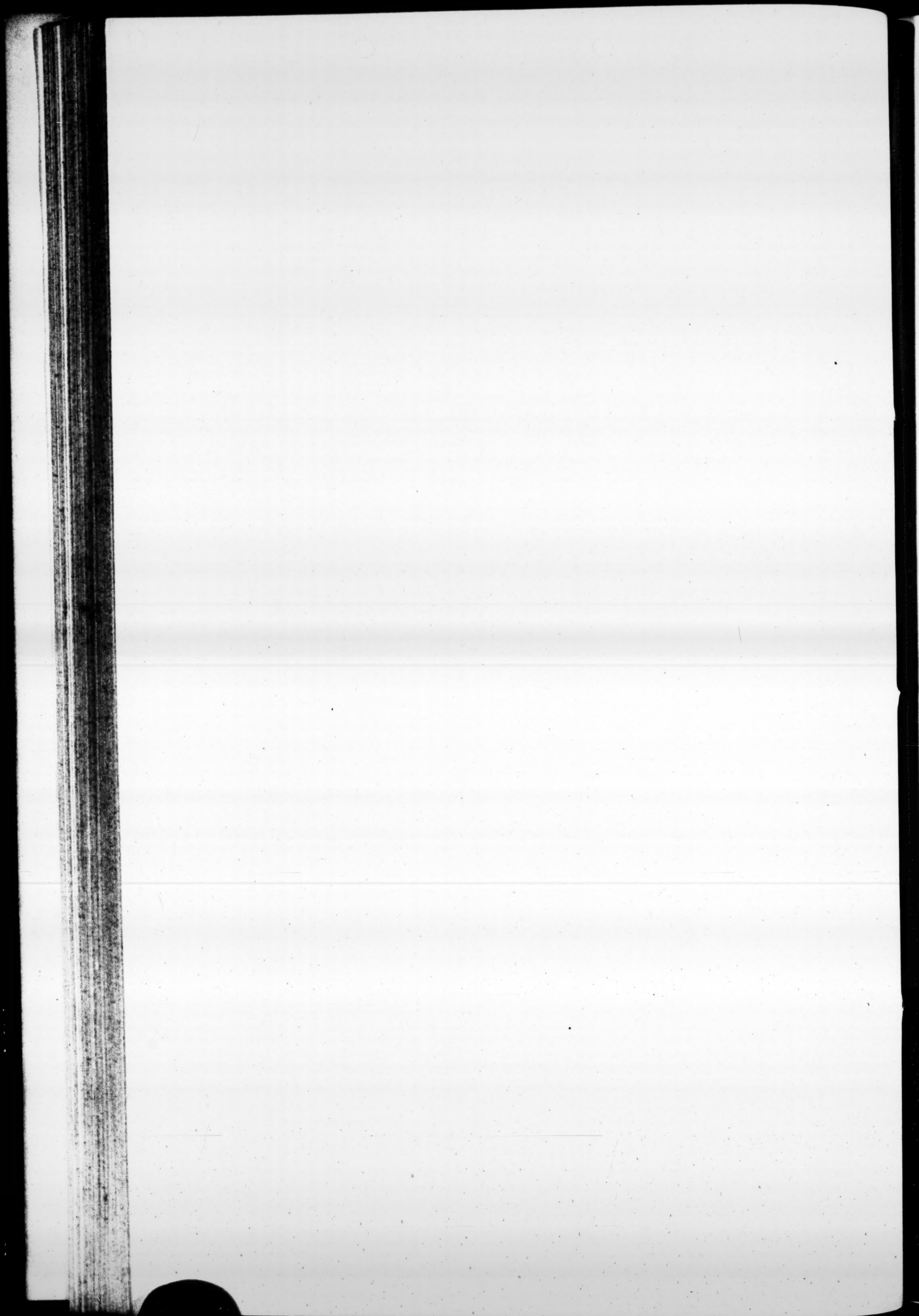
## ASSAM PAPERS.

Nil.

## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.			Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.						
Fortnightly.						
1	"Ahmadi"	...	...	Tangail, Mymensingh	600	10th February 1893. 27th January 1893.
2	"Bankura Darpan"	...	...	Bankura	...	
3	"Gramvāsi"	...	...	Ramkristopur, Howrah	1,000	
4	"Kaliyuga"	...	...	Calcutta	...	
5	"Kasipur Nivāsi"	...	...	Kasipur, Barisāl	280	
6	"Navamihir"	...	...	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
7	"Sadar-o-Mufassal"	...	...	Tahirpur, Rajshahi	...	
8	"Ulubaria Darpan"	...	...	Ulubaria	700	
Tri-monthly.						
9	"Hitakari"	...	...	Tangail Mymensingh	800	
Weekly.						
10	"Bangavāsi"	...	...	Calcutta	20,000	18th February 1893.
11	"Banganivāsi"	...	...	Ditto	8,000	17th ditto.
12	"Burdwān Sanjivani"	...	...	Burdwan	335	14th ditto.
13	"Chāruvartā"	...	...	Sherpur, Mymensingh	400	13th ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakāsh"	...	...	Dacca	2,200	19th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	...	...	Hooghly	825	17th ditto.
16	"Hindu Ranjikā"	...	...	Boalia, Rajshahi	212	
17	"Hitavādi"	...	...	Calcutta	...	16th ditto.
18	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	...	...	Berhampore	...	
19	"Navayuga"	...	...	Calcutta	500	
20	"Prakriti"	...	...	Ditto	...	18th ditto.
21	"Pratikār"	...	...	Berhampore	609	17th ditto.
22	"Prithivi"	...	...	Calcutta	...	
23	"Rangpur Dikprakāsh"	...	...	Kakinia, Rangpur	...	
24	"Sahachar"	...	...	Calcutta	800-1,000	15th ditto.
25	"Sahayogi"	...	...	Barisāl	342	
26	"Sakti"	...	...	Dacca	...	
27	"Samāj-o-Sāhitya"	...	...	Garibpore, Nadia	1,000	19th ditto.
28	"Samaya"	...	...	Calcutta	3,000	
29	"Sanjivani"	...	...	Ditto	4,000	18th ditto.
30	"Sansodhini"	...	...	Chittagong	...	
31	"Saraswat Patra"	...	...	Dacca	300	18th ditto.
32	"Som Prakāsh"	...	...	Calcutta	600	20th ditto.
33	"Srimanta Sadagar"	...	...	Ditto	...	
34	"Sudhākar"	...	...	Ditto	3,100	17th ditto.
35	"Sulabh Samāchar"	...	...	Ditto	...	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
Daily.				
36	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Calcutta	500	13th to 17th, 20th and 21st February 1893. 19th to 23rd February 1893. 18th, 20th and 22nd February 1893. 17th, 18th and 20th to 23rd February 1893. 13th, 16th to 18th, and 20th to 23rd February 1893.
37	"Bengal Exchange Gazette"	Ditto	.....	
38	"Dainik-o-Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto	1,000	
39	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	1,500	
40	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	
41	"Sulabh Dainik"	Ditto	.....	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
42	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	.....	13th February 1893.
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
43	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Samāchār Patrikā."	Darjeeling	50	16th ditto.
44	"Kshatriya Patrikā"	Patna	250	
Weekly.				
45	"Aryāvarta"	Dinapore	750	15th ditto.
46	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore	500	16th ditto.
47	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,200	
48	"Champaran Chandrika"	Bettiah	350	
49	"Desī Vyāpārī"	Calcutta	.....	20th ditto.
50	"Hindī Bangavāsī"	Ditto	.....	
51	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	
52	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	4,500	
URDU.				
Weekly.				
53	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch"	Bankipore	.....	13th ditto.
54	"Anis"	Patna	.....	20th ditto. 16th ditto.
55	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta	.....	
56	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide"	Ditto	340	
57	"General and Gauhariasfi"	Ditto	.....	
58	"Mehre Monawar"	Muzaffarpur	.....	16th ditto.
59	"Raisul-Akhbari-Murshidabad"	Murshidabad	150	
60	"Setare Hind"	Arrah	.....	
61	"Shokh"	Monghyr	.....	
URIYA.				
Monthly.				
62	"Asha"	Cuttack	165	
63	"Echo"	Ditto	.....	
64	"Pradip"	Ditto	.....	
65	"Samyabadi"	Ditto	.....	
66	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Ditto	.....	
67	"Utkalprabhā"	Baripada	.....	
Weekly.				
68	"Dipaka"	Cuttack	.....	
69	"Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore	200	
70	"Uriya and Navasamvād"	Ditto	420	
71	"Utkal Dipikā"	Cuttack	420	
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
72	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	480	
73	"Silchar"	Silchar	500	
Weekly.				
74	"Srihatta Mihir"	Sylhet	332	



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Hitavadi*, of the 16th February, has the following :—

The 14th February was the last date fixed for receiving a reply from the

The Amir.

Amir. That date is passed, and yet no reply has come. Double-dealing with the British lion!

Surely the Amir's days are numbered, and adequate punishment will be shortly inflicted on him for his impudence and double-dealing. But does the Amir really cherish bad intentions against the English? Is his loyalty to them only nominal, and does he really take credit to himself before his subjects for his independence? The militant attitude of the *Pioneer* has raised apprehensions in the writer's mind, and he does not know what thunders are being forged for Abdur Rahman in the workshop of the British Government.

2. The same paper refers to the Anglo-Chinese boundary negotiations, and says—

The Anglo-Chinese boundary question.

The differences between the Chinese and the English have reference only to those provinces in

Upper Burma over which Theebaw could not extend his rule and which had to be conquered by the English. It is not likely that the English will give up their claim to territories which they have conquered. That they have not yet taken possession of them by force is due to the fact that the Pamir question is not yet satisfactorily settled. So long as that question is not settled, the English will contrive to keep China in good humour.

3. The *Bangavasi*, of the 18th February, says that Russia has asked permission to maintain an Ambassador in Calcutta,

A Russian ambassador in Calcutta.

and has tried to induce Government to grant her request by saying that the entertainment of such

an Ambassador may find for the Darjeeling tea a market in Russia. The English, it is true, are a commercial people, but will they be tempted by such a poor bait?

4. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, says that it is rumoured that the Czar of Russia will assume the title of "Em-

The Czar of Russia as the "Emperor of Asia."

peror of Asia." Russia will, in that case, outdo England, whose Queen is only the Empress of

India.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

5. The *Charuvarta*, of the 13th February, says that, though the hackney-

The hackney-carriage drivers of Calcutta.

carriage drivers of Calcutta have returned to work, the authorities ought to remove their grievances, otherwise, they may strike work again and

cause fresh trouble.

6. The *Pratihar*, of the 17th February, expresses regret for the affray

The Buddha Gaya temple affair.

which took place the other day at Buddha Gaya between the Hindus and the Buddhists, and says

that it will not be well for Government to interfere in the matter of the possession of the temple.

7. Referring to the affray which lately took place between the Hindus and the Buddhists in the temple at Buddha-Gaya, the

The affray in the temple at Buddha Gaya.

*Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, says that it has repeatedly pointed out the danger of allowing follow-

ers of two different religions to worship in the same temple. It is difficult to say which party was more to blame in the late affray than the other. It is probable that both are equally to blame for the breach of the peace.

8. The same paper says that, owing to the prevalence of family quarrels

Public peace in Barisal.

among the zamindars of Nalchiti in the Backergunge district, their men are committing great

oppression on the residents of the place. Some savages have availed themselves of the opportunity to commit highway robbery in broad daylight. The police are, however, quite indifferent in the matter.

HITAVADI,  
Feb. 16th, 1893.

HITAVADI.

BANGAVASI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

CHARUVARTA,  
Feb. 13th, 1893.

PRATIKAR,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

BANGANIVASI.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

9. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, draws the attention of the police to the sudden death of a girl, named Nandarani, while going in a carriage in company with her brother.

A suspicious death.  
in-law from Manoharpur near Kalighat to a marriage feast which was being held in the house of a relative in a neighbouring village. It was only some eight or nine months ago that the girl, who is aged 13 or 14, was surreptitiously married by a relative against her father's wish to one Manik Mandal, of Manoharpur, a man over fifty years of age. The writer suspects the girl to have been the victim of foul play.

SANJIVANI.

10. The same paper has learnt that highway robbery has become rife within the jurisdiction of the Nalhati thana in the Backergunge district. The robbers are plying their trade, not in the darkness of night, but in broad day-

light. The police are, however, doing nothing to bring the offenders to justice.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

11. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 21st February, says that a gentleman having remonstrated with a paharawala for easing himself in a street, the latter retorted, by saying that he was drunk and disorderly. The paharawalas are also in the habit of rudely pushing people when they march over footpaths in a body after being relieved of their watch. Is there no means of putting a stop to these things?

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 22nd, 1893.

12. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 22nd February, says that the Arms Act has deprived the people of the means of defending themselves against dacoits. It therefore behoves Government to enquire about the cause of the frequent dacoities that are now taking place in the country, and to adopt measures for the protection of the life and property of the people.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 23rd, 1893.

13. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 23rd February, refers to a dacoity recently committed at the house of Babu Mahananda Banerji, a zamindar of Sodpur, and says that the occurrence of a dacoity so near Calcutta reflects the greatest discredit on the police.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Feb. 13th, 1893.

14. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 13th February, asks if the aggrieved student of the Narainganj school, in the Dacca district, will get no redress of his wrong, and whether Civilian Magistrates have really become devoid of all conscience. But the writer is sure that all civilians are not bad, and it is his firm belief that the boy will yet get redress.

DACCA GAZETTE.

15. The same paper says that it is evident that Sir Charles Elliott's policy of repression is the outcome of his ignorance of this province. Of all his public measures the jury order is the one which has created the utmost sense of insecurity in the minds of the people. No wise ruler in Europe would have dared to arouse such a feeling of distrust in the minds of his subjects, but Anglo-Indian statesmanship is something different from what passes under that name in civilised Europe. It cannot, of course, be denied that, owing to India being inhabited by peoples of various religions and nationalities, it will not do for the rulers to consult them on every measure they may intend to adopt. But the people should certainly have been consulted in a matter like the jury order, which affects the whole population of the country. Now that the unnecessary and unjustifiable order has been passed, it behoves the Government not to maintain its *aid* any longer, but to withdraw the order without delay.

DACCA GAZETTE.

16. The same paper says that there seems to be a conviction in the minds of the present criminal judiciary of Munshiganj, in the Dacca district, that whoever is brought up on a charge is a guilty person, and should therefore, be punished. Some of these officers have made it a rule not to allow the accused to call more than three or four witnesses, for they consider it a mere waste of the court's time to allow the defendant to call more than that number. Some other officers of that place again consider the appearance of a pleader for the defence as a sure proof of the guilt of the accused. For, it

is argued, no innocent person would think it worth his while to spend money on his defence. The writer will particularly refer to the Sub-Deputy Magistrate, Babu Tarak Chandra Ganguly, who is known as a convicting Magistrate. Babu Tarak Chandra is a native of Munshiganj, and has therefore, frequently to try cases in which his relatives and acquaintances are implicated. And it is no wonder that failure of justice should be supposed to occur in such cases. He ought, under the circumstances, to be transferred to some other place. That failure of justice is taking place in a large percentage of cases tried by the Munshiganj criminal courts can be easily proved, if necessary, from the records of appellate courts.

17. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 13th February, says that it seems to be the object of Sir Charles Elliott's administration to have every man brought before a criminal court dealt out some punishment. Sir Charles has ordered that the criminal courts must secure 75 per cent. of convictions. In obedience to this order the Deputy Magistrates are doing an incalculable amount of mischief. Lately Babu Sasibhusan Datta, Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan, sentenced an old man to nine months' rigorous imprisonment, for an alleged violation of the stamp law, but the man was acquitted on appeal to the District Judge. Another Deputy Magistrate, Babu Narayan Chandra Sen, has generally 75 per cent. of his convictions set aside by superior courts, which, in their mercy for the poor Deputy, do not probably set aside the remaining 25 per cent. Indeed, if criminal justice is to be administered in the way Sir Charles would like to see it administered, then the very name of justice must be forgotten. Sir Charles is reported to have said that "somebody ought to be punished for the day's work." This, of course, means that whether the real culprits are apprehended or not, somebody must be punished for a crime committed. This puts the writer in mind of a curious story. A certain European gentleman sent some coolies to be tried by a Magistrate for some offence. The Magistrate's *peshkar* placed the coolies and a letter from the gentleman before the Magistrate, who, without opening the letter, thought that they had been brought to him because he wanted some coolies that day. He, however, ordered the men to be sent away, as he did not want them just then. Later on in the day he happened to open the letter and then ordered the *peshkar* to bring up the coolies mentioned in it. And the *peshkar* dragged into court some coolies who were just then passing by, and the Magistrate ordered them to a whipping of ten stripes each. Does Sir Charles want this sort of justice?

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 13th, 1893.

18. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th February, has the following in connection with the jury question:—

The jury question.

It seems that the jury agitation has proved abortive. Though it was clearly pointed out that the opinions of the officials on which Government relied did not lend any support to its contentions, and though the *Times* and other high class newspapers in England advocated the withdrawal of the jury notification, the Viceroy's threat to resign has proved most effective, and the agitation of the people has gone for nothing. The opinion of the Viceroy ought no doubt to carry great weight with the home authorities, but when, as in the present case, that opinion is clearly wrong, it is certainly not sound statesmanship on the part of those authorities to uphold the prestige of the Viceroy at the expense of the just rights of the people. It seems that the Government of India is determined to see its orders on the jury question anyhow upheld. This *zid* on its part is most regrettable. The present question is one which affects only the well-being of the people and its settlement one way or another will not in the least affect the power and prestige of Government. It is the duty of the Sovereign to make her subjects happy. And the people only wish that the British raj may be able to fulfil this duty by their subjects. Will not this wish of the people be granted?

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 14th, 1893.

19. The same paper regrets very much to say that it is now the earnest desire of the executive authorities to curtail the powers of the Courts and to bring them under their own control. Though the criminal courts are under the High Court, yet the hakims who administer justice in those Courts,

The curtailment of the independence of the Courts.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

are executive officers who depend for their promotion and preferment not on the good will of the High Court, but on the goodwill of the Magistrate, the Commissioner and the Lieutenant-Governor. This being the case, these officers take more care to please the executive authorities above them than to administer even-handed justice. Sometimes they have been known even to disregard the orders of the High Court. And in such cases, by treating the offending officers with indulgence, Government indirectly curtails the powers of the High Court.

The hakims of the civil courts are independent, and the people are to a great extent satisfied with the way in which they administer justice. The present Lieutenant-Governor has, however, interfered with these Courts too. He wants to see them dispose of a larger number of cases than they do now. But considering how important the decisions of these Courts are, it is by no means proper to require them to dispose of cases so hastily.

Government is also trying to bring the High Court under its control and has, partially, succeeded in curtailing its powers. The High Court of the present day has lost the power and the prestige which it had under the Chief Justiceship of Sir Barnes Peacock, and an attempt is being made to rob it of what little independence it still possesses. But Government is not acting wisely in thus trying to curtail its powers. By throwing obstacles in the way of a sound administration of justice, it is making itself unpopular and sowing the seeds of disloyalty and disaffection in the country.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 14th, 1893.

20. A correspondent of the same paper says that, so far as he knows,

The Deputy Magistrate of  
Katwa in the Burdwan district.

Sasi Babu, Deputy Magistrate of Katwa, is a good judicial officer and a good many of his decisions are upheld in appeal. The subdivision has become

comparatively quiet during his time, and the number of false cases has considerably decreased. It will be unfair to form an estimate of his judicial capacity from one or two of his decisions.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 15th, 1893.

Lord Kimberley and the jury  
question.

21. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February, has the following:—

Lord Kimberley is not a good Secretary of State. He is a Liberal only in name. And judging him by his acts as Secretary of State for India several years ago, it will not be improper to call him a Tory. But as the present ministry depend for their continuance in office chiefly on the support of the Radicals, and as the latter are convinced of the impropriety of the Lieutenant-Governor's jury notification, Lord Kimberley, be his political leanings what they may, will not easily go against the Radicals in the present matter. But then the Viceroy, forgetting the dignity of his office, has threatened to resign if his decision in the matter is set aside. If this threat prevents the home authorities from removing the grievance of the Indian people, they will be, in practice, having all power to the Government of India, making it as despotic as the Emperor of China. Another effect of this will be to convince the people of India of the utter uselessness of making appeals to the English public, and to shake their unbounded faith in British justice. According to Lord Lansdowne's apologists reversal by the Secretary of State of the Government of India's decision in the matter is likely to injure the prestige of that Government. There is no truth in this. And supposing there is, which is more valuable, the *aid* of an individual official, or England's reputation for justice? Sir Charles Elliott's jury notification has been unanimously condemned, and even those Europeans who have not publicly espoused the cause of the people have disapproved of it. Again, since the issue of the notification, the Judges of the High Court have set aside on appeal the decisions of the District Judges in a great majority of cases. And if now Lord Kimberley does not interfere in the matter for fear lest the Viceroy should resign, he will do an injury to the British Empire in India. The present rulers of India have shown that they love more to see people convicted than acquitted. They become extremely angry when a jury acquits any accused person, but when a Judge passes the sentence of death, and the sentence is set aside by the High Court, neither the Lieutenant-Governor nor Sir Philip Hutchins (who is the real ruler of India) nor Lord Lansdowne expresses the least regret over the matter. Moreover, theft and dacoity cases are still left in the hands of jurors, though it is notorious that the latter are apt to convict on very slender evidence in

such cases. If now, the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor resign, no harm will be done to the Maharani and her Indian Empire. Considering the incapacity which the present rulers of India have shown, they cannot be regarded as the real custodians of the good name of the British *raj*. There is no lack of able men in England, and Lord Lansdowne's resignation will do harm to nobody. But then the spectacle of a Viceroy retiring simply because the wishes of the people have been granted against his own, is not a very dignified one. The writer must nevertheless say that a Viceroy who should cling to his *zid* so obstinately ought to resign. For he has no sense of his own responsibility, and gives more importance to his own *zid* than to any considerations of justice. English history furnishes no instance of a ruler of this type.

The powers of the High Court have been curtailed; all hakims, from the District Judge to the Deputy Magistrate, have been brought under the control of the executive authorities; the people have lost their former confidence in the criminal courts, and even Europeans do not consider their liberty safe. If Lord Kimberley fails to interfere at such a time as this, he will prove his own extreme incapacity, and the English people will lose their reputation for justice—a loss which will be simply irreparable.

22. The same paper says that recently the Sessions Judge of North Arcot sentenced two men to death, but the Madras High Court has set them free on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence against them. This shows that Sessions Judges do not hesitate to pass most severe sentences on insufficient evidence. The fact is, the Judges have not the same power of estimating native evidence as is possessed by a native jury. There are, again, many Judges who in appeal cases simply read the judgment of the lower courts and then dismiss them with the remark—"We see no reason to interfere." It seems that the people are destined to see strange things during Lord Lansdowne's administration.

23. The same paper says that the jury list for the 24-Parganas district has been published, and the Judge and the Collector will hear objections in connection with the list. It is hoped that really efficient men will be made jurors this time. As the interests of suitors suffer by the appointment of pleaders and mukhtars as jurors, it is desirable to exempt them from service on the jury in the same way as clergymen are exempted.

24. The *Hitavadi*, of the 16th February, refers to the case of the Narainganj school-boy, and makes the following remarks:—The Magistrate who heard the case, dismissed it by saying that a boy of twelve had no business to say good morning to a Sahib. As the Magistrate and the defendant, Mr. Palmer are members of the same club, it is idle to expect justice from him in this case. But the members of the Higher Training Association who teach boys to salaam a European should consider the matter. Government ought to make rules laying down the age up to which a boy salaaming a European would make himself liable to punishment. One does not know how much misery is in store for the people of this country. The Sahibs, it seems, will beat them when they salaam them as well as when they omit to salaam them.

25. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 16th February, has the following:—

A Deputy Magistrate of Purulia having lately discharged, for want of evidence, all the persons sent up by the police in a rioting case, the Lieutenant-Governor expressed his dissatisfaction with the decision, and remarked that "somebody ought to be punished for the day's work." A remark like this would almost make one wish that the earth had yawned and afforded him a safe asylum in its bosom. Such things can no longer be borne. The people of this country must be worse than dogs, or such oppression could not take place. Are they such great sinners that the Lieutenant-Governor cannot let a day pass without making some provision for their punishment? Is it proper that the Lieutenant-Governor should oppress the people merely because God has placed him over them as their ruler. Oppression is not administration. It is not, however, safe to oppose the Lieutenant-Governor's wishes.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 15th, 1893.

SAHACHAR.

HITAVADI,  
Feb. 16, 18th 93.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 16th, 1893.

Convictions by Sessions Judges  
on insufficient evidence.

The jury list for the 24-Parganas district.

The Narainganj boy's case.

The Lieutenant-Governor and  
the dispensation of criminal  
justice.

"As for you, O Lieutenant-Governor! how long will you shine in the sky of Bengal. Your rays are becoming feebler and feebler. The dawn is near and the morning star is about to appear on the horizon. Your days of happiness are drawing to an end. The night is of short duration, and bearing this in mind try to please good people. Why don't you try to earn popularity during the remaining few days? What you have done is sufficient and there remains nothing for you to do. All that we would say to you now is—'Try to earn in some measure the blessings of the people by pleasing them with a few sweet words.'"

Things have come to such a pass that this Province of Bengal will soon be ruined. How will the Lieutenant-Governor in that case act upon the principle of "somebody ought to be punished" in this desolate province? Whatever happens happens according to Divine dispensation. It is therefore idle to blame the Lieutenant-Governor. Man is but an instrument in the hand of God.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

Executive high-handedness. 26. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, has the following:—

The Lieutenant-Governor seeks to palliate the faults of an officer like Mr. Phillips, and wants even to praise him. The authorities are startled when an innocent person is acquitted of a charge in a criminal court, as well as when a guilty person escapes punishment for want of sufficient evidence. What the authorities really want is that every accused person brought up before a court should be convicted and punished, as though the whole population were so unruly that without such a stringent policy, peace could not be secured nor British dominion maintained in the country. In consequence of the cruelty, indiscreetness, *zid*, *zulm* and *zubberdust* conduct of the executive, the richest and the poorest in the land, not excepting even the ladies of the *zanana*, are going to lose their ease, happiness, and honour. Far from checking this injustice and oppression, as the rulers are in duty bound to do, they are rather encouraging it by their attitude of perfect apathy and indifference. Injustice is becoming so rampant that the Indians find it impossible to live in peace, eating their poor morsel of food and wearing their rags. "O! you just rulers, who are intent on pleasing the subject people; it is to you that we supplicate with joined hands to put a stop to this, and to check the high-handedness of the executive, which is passing its due limits. Let your sceptre be wielded for the purpose of keeping secure the life, property and honour of your subjects. At the present crisis the only hope of India lies in your granting her protection and giving her assurances of safety."

BANGAVASI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

The Deputy Magistrates. 27. The *Bangavasi*, of the 18th February, has the following:—

It seems to be the conviction of most Deputy Magistrates that they will fail to earn the good will of the authorities and promotion in the service, unless they oppress the people in the name of administering justice. But it is these officers themselves who are to blame for putting such a perverse interpretation upon the good intentions of the authorities. If the Deputy Magistrates possessed the least sense of self-respect, if they could by the merest hint let the authorities know that they had a trace of manliness still left in their hearts, the authorities could not certainly act in the way of which the Deputy Magistrates complain. It is the Deputy Magistrates themselves who have given the authorities the opportunity to know that they have accepted service through sheer necessity, that they are ready to sacrifice everything on earth for the gratification of their hunger, and that they can insult respectable people, can injure even their own relatives, and will not hesitate even to perpetrate the grossest outrage on their own society and religion, if only by doing so they can secure promotion in the service. Can it therefore be wondered at that District Magistrates will dare rebuke such Deputy Magistrates, and even hint that they should do injustice? The writer will give an instance in point. A District Magistrate asked one of his Deputies what he meant by ordering a man to be detained in jail until the latter found a security, and under what law he had passed the order. The Deputy Magistrate frankly admitted that he had written out the order at the bidding of the District Superintendent of Police, who wanted the man to be detained in jail for the sake of the public peace. The Magistrate could hardly suppress his indignation at this answer, and fearing lest the Deputy should make further shameful disclosures in open court,

told him to go away. This is not the only case of its kind; such instances can be multiplied without number. And it is no wonder that the higher executive officers should make such Deputies obsequious tools in their hands when they want to do something wrong. It is the low and subservient character of these men that has subjected the whole class of native Deputy Magistrates to the *zulm* and oppression so much complained of at the present time. The authorities themselves can scarcely be blamed for it. They vested the native officers with criminal judicial powers in the hope that they would be able to make a proper exercise of those powers. But these officers have disappointed Government, and proved a curse to their own countrymen.

28. Referring to the Narainganj school-boy's case, the same paper says that since, according to the Sub-divisional Officer, who tried it, assault which brings one to the ground is not a criminal offence, the guardians of the boy can easily retaliate themselves on the defendant European, but the writer would not advise them to adopt such a course. He only wants to know if respectfully greeting a person who is worthy of respect, is inconsistent with the morality which the Lieutenant-Governor is so anxious to introduce in schools.

BANGAVASI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

29. The *Saraswat Patra*, of the 18th February, says that no one will deny that a reform of the jury system has become necessary. But it should be reformed not by curtailing, but by increasing the powers of jurors, so that the office of juror may appear respectable in the eyes of really worthy men, and by selecting better men as jurors than is now done. The writer is happy to notice that the Lieutenant-Governor has issued a circular calling upon all Magistrates to revise the jury lists with care in consultation with Sessions Judges. If the order is strictly carried out, the result will no doubt be very satisfactory. But the writer fears that in most cases the preparation of the jury list will be entrusted by the Magistrate to his Deputy, by the Deputy to his clerk, and by the clerk to his apprentice. It would be well if Government laid down some rules for the selection of jurors like those which have been framed for the election of members to Boards and Municipalities.

SARASWAT PATRA,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

30. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 19th February, is deeply grieved to see that the Liberal Secretary of State, Lord Kimberley, has given orders for the appointment of a Jury Commission instead of at once directing the withdrawal of the jury order. The jury question is sure to be discussed in Parliament, though the present, when Parliament is busy with the Home Rule question, is not a favourable time for its discussion. There is also the apprehension that the Gladstone ministry may be defeated on the Home Rule question, and that the Conservatives may thus come into power. And it is extremely probable that a Conservative ministry will, from a consideration for the feelings of the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor, be unwilling to annul the jury order. If the Jury Commission should approve of the order, a more vigorous agitation must be made against it. It is easy to imagine how public confidence in the Government will be shaken if, for the purpose of maintaining the prestige of the Government in this country, the Liberal Ministry approve of the jury order.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 20th, 1893.

31. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 20th February, says that the jury notifications issued in Bengal and Assam should be withdrawn or, at any rate, suspended before a Commission is appointed to enquire into the working of the jury system. That it is proposed to appoint such a Commission at all shows that doubts are entertained about the justice of Government's order about jury trial. The Secretary of State has certainly done a very wrong thing if he has not ordered a temporary suspension of the jury notifications. But even if he has not done so, the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, at whose request he has appointed a Jury Commission, should have the generosity to order such a suspension themselves.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 20th, 1893.

The Secretary of State is probably of opinion that interference with the freedom of action of the Government of India would lead to confusion. But, as a matter of fact, the freedom of action of that Government is frequently interfered with. Lord Kimberley himself interfered with that freedom in con-

nection with the Ilbert Bill, and Lord Cross made similar interference in connection with the Indian Factories Bill. That freedom was also interfered with when the import duties were abolished. When Government's freedom of action is so often interfered with, why has there been no interference in this jury matter? Has even Lord Kimberley forgotten that it is wrong to wilfully violate justice and has even Mr. Gladstone approved of such violation?

The English Government in this country will be unable to satisfy the people unless it suspends the jury notifications before a Jury Commission is appointed. If the notifications remain in force, many accused persons who would not have been probably punished if they had been tried by a jury will now be sentenced to death or transportation for life. If the Commission approve of the jury system, will not all such sentences appear unjust and involve Government in sin? If the notifications are not suspended for the present, the people must perforce conclude that Government is perfectly confident that the jury order will be justified by the Commission—a conclusion which cannot but impair public faith in the impartiality of that body.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 20th, 1893.

32. The same paper refers to the vaunt of the *Pioneer* that it is the Government that has triumphed in this jury question, and remarks that it is not at all strange that the all-powerful Government should triumph, and that in this *Kaliyuga* injustice should prevail over justice.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

33. The same paper says that a Mussulman bricklayer had thrown lime into his wife's eyes and clipped her hair with a view to make her desist from adultery. The man was tried before Mr. Marsden, who sentenced him to three months' imprisonment, and lectured him as follows:—"You are a Mussulman and could very easily divorce your wife. Why did you then torture her in this way?" Let the Mussulman community consider whether Mr. Marsden does not mean by this that since the divorce system obtains among the Mussulmans, no one among them should punish his adulterous wife, and that if any one does so he will be sent to jail.

34. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 20th February, has the following:—That the prayers of the Indians are so little attended to is probably because they are so loyal. While the English subject only bows his head before the throne, the Indian subject falls prostrate before it. While the English subject clamours loudly against any measure which he dislikes, the Indian subject only mildly prays for its repeal. Yet the English subject is pardoned though guilty of a thousand offences, while the slightest offence on the part of the Indian subject is taken severe notice of. The writer complains of this difference of treatment, not in anger, but in deep sorrow.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 20th, 1893.

The proposed Jury Commission. Englishmen know well how to baffle the Indians, and the proposed Jury Commission is a proof of this. No conceivable reason can be assigned for the appointment of the Commission, except a desire to maintain the prestige of the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor. A Commission is required for settling a matter only when there are conflicting opinions about it. But there is no difference of opinion on this jury question. The Lieutenant-Governor, who is fond of power, has abolished jury trial without assigning any reason for such abolition. The Home Government, which decides so many important questions, could have very well decided this jury question too with the help of the official opinion on the subject laid before it, and without requiring the assistance of a Commission.

Again, a Commission should be composed of persons who have no personal interest in the question which will come before them for decision. But every one in India, be he an official or a non-official, is interested in the decision of this question one way or the other. Nor can a Jury Commission be composed of Englishmen in England, for they too have already expressed their opinion on the subject in newspapers.

Commissions are not found to produce any great result. Government did not accept in their entirety, either the recommendations of the Civil Service or the Wheeler Commission. The Hurdwar Commission and the Frontier Commissions, too, have produced no good.

The writer had hoped much from accession of the Liberals to power, but he is sadly disappointed. The orders of the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor are not to be annulled.

35. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, is glad that the Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor has written to the Editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* at His Honour's direction, that His Honour

The Lieutenant-Governor and the criminal judiciary.

has never said that a Judicial Officer, and especially a Deputy Magistrate, will not obtain promotion if he does not convict people. But does not expression of dissatisfaction with Deputy Magistrates, who fail to convict a large number of accused persons, amount to encouragement of conviction? And is not such dissatisfaction expressed in Resolutions on the Divisional Administration Reports? The servant acts upon the master's hint. In fact, so long as the executive officers have authority over judicial officers, the defects in the administration of criminal justice will not disappear. The Lieutenant-Governor should announce in the most public manner that no judicial officer will incur the displeasure of Government for acting according to the dictates of his own conscience and judgment.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

36. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 22nd February, says that the present class of Deputy Magistrates possess no conscience and independence of character. In order that they may be able to retain their posts, they do not hesitate to do even most improper things. They do illegal acts at the bidding of superior officers. The fate of the Deputy Magistrates depends upon the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Lieutenant-Governor's principle is that 75 per cent. of accused persons should be convicted, and that "somebody ought to be punished for the day's work." Such being the case, the Deputy Magistrates have to cast overboard all moral scruples.

The Deputy Magistrates.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 22nd, 1893.

37. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 23rd February, has the following:—

The Jury Commission.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 23rd, 1893.

We can clearly see that the Jury Commission will lead to no result. The Commission is going to be appointed, only because the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor wish to see it appointed. In the eyes of Englishmen the Indian people are worse than bondslaves. The Indians are mere toys in the hands of Englishmen, who do with these toys just what they please. In any other country the English would not have been able to act in this manner.

The English, we ought to know, love us tenderly, and they have therefore sent a god in the person of the Lieutenant-Governor to deliver us from the monster of jury trial. Why should we then say anything against Government's jury order? Do we not see that the love shown for us by the English is only a pretended love? Is the trial of natives by native jurors so very great an evil that we must thank the English Government for having abolished such trial? Government will not be able to maintain its glory and good name if it shows partiality. A Government tainted with partiality is not deserving of the name. The jury question has been already discussed threadbare. Why then appoint a Commission for its decision?

The Secretary of State has committed a great mistake in seeking to maintain the prestige of the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor. Let there be a Commission, if it is to cost nothing. But the Indian people will be unable to pay anything for it. Why all this parade for the decision of a question which the Secretary of State could have very well decided himself? The Indians are not in justice bound to pay a single farthing at this time of distress for the gratification of a whim of the authorities. But O Englishmen! You may, if you please, wrest money from us for the Commission; you are at liberty to appoint a Commission, if you think it right and just to appoint one by starving the people. We are not in favour of this idle parade. A remedy which is more dreadful than the disease itself is not to be tolerated. We have not the least wish to obtain the privilege of jury trial by starving ourselves. You are at liberty to maintain or abolish jury trial as you think best, only do not torture us and slay the thrice slain. To us, Liberal and Conservative are all one, and we are disposed to say that the policy of the selfish English Government is proving our ruin. The appointment of this Jury Commission is an illustration of "much ado about nothing."

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 23rd, 1893.

38. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 23rd February, approves of the appointment of Sir Ramesh Chandra Mitra and Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohan Tagore as members of the Jury Commission. Of the European members of the Commission, it is sufficient certificate for Sir Griffith Evans to say that he is an English Barrister. Mr. Justice Prinsep's opinion on the jury question is not unknown to the public. Both the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor quoted his opinion in support of the jury notification. But then, even he was for the improvement of the system and not for its abolition. Mr. Wilkins' opinion on the subject is not known, for it was not published in the official Gazette.

(d)—Education.

PRATIKAR,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

39. Referring to the students' party lately given at Belvedere, the *Pratihar*, of the 17th February, says that the Lieutenant-Governor is to be praised for his good-will towards the student community.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

40. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, says that on the morning of the first day of the Entrance Examination recently held at Barisal, copies of the evening paper were by mistake given to four candidates. On discovery of the mistake the papers were taken back, and these four candidates were not allowed to go out during tiffin time. They were thus deprived of the benefit which the other candidates enjoyed of going, during the tiffin time, hurriedly through the books in which they were to be examined in the evening.

PRAKRITI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

41. A correspondent of the *Prakriti*, of the 18th February, says that the present practice of requiring the students of the medical schools to appear at the first examination at the end of the second year, and at the final examination at the end of the third, causes great inconvenience to them. After passing the first examination they do not get sufficient time for preparing themselves for the final examination. The writer therefore suggests that there should be four instead of three classes in all medical schools, and the students should be required to pass the first examination at the end of the second year, and the final examination at the end of the fourth year. It is hoped that Government will give effect to these proposals without delay.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

42. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, notices with satisfaction that Sir Charles and Lady Elliott cordially mixed with the students who were recently invited to Belvedere, and says that it was a treat to the boys to be thus entertained by the ruler of the province, after the hard labour they had undergone for preparing themselves for their University examinations.

SANJIVANI.

43. The same paper says that from the papers recently published by the Government of Bengal in regard to the Madrasa Debating Club affair, Maulvi Kabiruddin appears to be a perfectly worthless man, and the writer is not sorry for the punishment which has been dealt out to him. But the Lieutenant-Governor's decisions in regard to Abdul Karim and Mr. Lorimer cannot be characterised otherwise than as decisions by a *kazi*. The writer fails to see how Abdul Karim could be supposed to have any power to disperse the meeting, for not doing which he has been censured. In deed, one fails to see anything objectionable in the character of the meeting. The fact is, Mr. Webb's lecture wounded the religious sensibilities of Sir Charles Elliott, and hence the ridiculous decisions he has arrived at.

SANJIVANI.

44. The same paper says that the immoral festivities which were held in the house of the Bhattacharyya Babus of Elenga in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, on the occasion of the late Kali Puja, were joined by the Deputy Magistrate, the Munsifs, the medical practitioners, the pleaders and the mukhtars of Tangail. One of the teachers of the Bindubasini High School took an active part in the festivities which were partaken of even by many students. It is a wonder that the official and non-official communities of Tangail should thus scoff at morality, while Government is doing its best

to improve the morality of school-boys. The attention of the authorities is invited to the matter.

45. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 18th February, says that Government ought to be heartily thanked for the encouragement it is giving to Sanskrit learning. It is, however, to be pointed out in this connection that Government should on no account interfere with the independence of the *pandits*, who are receiving rewards and stipends at its hands. The writer would also ask Government to open out a career to those who are trained in the Sanskrit *tois* and therefore possess no knowledge of English.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

46. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 20th February, says that European officials are anxious to introduce Western manners and Western amusements among the students of this country by organising representations of English plays, by taking them out on river-trips and by giving them feasts, which are in some measure an attack upon the caste system. The people should therefore take care to observe the caste system, without at the same time displeasing these officials. While receiving English education, which they cannot now do without, the students should take care to keep aloof as far as possible from English ways and habits.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 20th, 1893.

47. The same paper hears that in the last Entrance examination one afternoon paper could not be furnished to the candidates at the Darjeeling centre on the due date, as the Deputy Commissioner in whose custody that paper was had gone ahunting. What would have been the case if the Deputy Commissioner had been only a Deputy Magistrate?

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

48. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 21st February, hears that the Deputy Commissioner of a certain district had gone ahunting without making arrangements for the supply of a particular set of question papers to the Entrance candidates who were being examined at the head-quarters of the district. The result was that that set of question papers could not be furnished to the candidates on the due date. Will not the Lieutenant-Governor take notice of this carelessness on the part of the Deputy Commissioner?

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

49. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 22nd February, says that the University should refund the examination fee of those candidates who are prevented by illness and other unavoidable circumstances from presenting themselves at its examinations.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 22nd, 1893.

50. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 23rd February, complains that the questions in the paper in English in the B. A. examination of this year were too many, that so much as 75 per cent. of the marks have been assigned for explanation, and that there is great inequality in the marks assigned to the questions from the different text-books.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 23rd, 1893.

(e).—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

51. A correspondent of the *Ulubaria Drapan*, of the 27th January, complains of mismanagement in connection with the ferry at Atila in the Ulubaria sub-division of the Howrah district. No good boats are to be had at the ferry, and the boatman is often absent from the ghat.

ULUBARIA DRAPAN,  
Jan. 27th, 1893.

52. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, says that scarcity of water is being already felt in Howrah, and that it will become more severe in the hot season. Even if the proposal of the Municipality to spend six thousand rupees for supplying tanks with river water is carried out, it will not be adequate to remove the sufferings of the people.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 27th, 1893.

53. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, says that, though it is the duty of the 24-Parganas District Board to repair the portion of the Kulpee road which lies within the Joynagar Municipality, the Commissioners of that

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

Municipality some years ago consented to contribute Rs. 200 towards the repair of the road, if the District Board would entrust the work to the Municipality, and not to a private contractor. The Board refused to do this, and the Municipality therefore declined to make the contribution. The District Board has now for some years past totally refrained from repairing the road, which has in consequence become most inconvenient, not to say dangerous, for public traffic. The bridge on this road near Mitraganj is in a rickety condition, and it has become absolutely necessary that it should be repaired forthwith. Even the contribution of Rs. 200 which the Joynagar Municipality one year actually made for purposes of repair has not yet been spent by the Board for that purpose. It is hoped the Board will not fritter away the amount in making petty repairs in the road.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

54. The same paper says that, though Mr. R. C. Dutt, when Magistrate of Mymensingh, advised the Nasirabad Municipality on financial considerations to close the roads running by the east, north and west of the

Mr. Phillips and some roads in the Nasirabad Municipality.

circuit-house and to open two new roads leading to the river, he took no further steps when the Municipality refused to accept his proposal. He lived in the circuit-house with his family, and, in spite of the inconvenience he had to suffer from noise proceeding from those crowded roads, he did not think it right to close them to public traffic. But no sooner did Mr. Phillips come to Mymensingh than he closed those roads on his own authority. Mr. Phillips thought it right to prosecute Raja Suryya Kanta for alleged obstruction to public traffic caused by the closing of a small lane, but did not think it wrong to close some large thoroughfares, though he had no authority to do so. It is a wonder that the Municipal Commissioners were so afraid of Mr. Phillips that they did not utter one word of protest. And how is it that even the Lieutenant-Governor has remained silent over Mr. Phillips' illegal action, though His Honour has been made aware of it? Indeed, under Sir Charles Ellicott *zubberdust* rule is the order of the day, and right and justice are held in small esteem. His Honour is thus tarnishing the good name of Her Majesty's Government. Mr. Phillips may be a great favourite with His Honour, but has he, for that reason, any right to close a public thoroughfare? It is a wonder that under Her Majesty's Government Mr. Phillips should escape all punishment for his illegal action. Whatever indulgence Sir Charles may shew to high-handed officials, the rod of justice is being manufactured in England, which will one day come down upon the heads of *zubberdust* rulers of India.

PRAKRITI  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

55. A correspondent of the *Prakriti*, of the 18th February, says that certain Hindustani gowalas are in the habit of driving herds of buffaloes through Lonsdowne Row during the hours when schools open and close. This causes great inconvenience to schoolboys, many of whom were chased by a large bull on the 11th instant, and had to take shelter in the house of a European. It is hoped that the Municipal authorities will look to the matter.

Herds of buffaloes in Lonsdowne Row.

DAINIK O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

56. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, says that a tram-car passed over a grandson of the Subordinate Judge, Babu Krishna Mohan Mukerji, of Bhawanipur, who is not likely to recover from the injury; and remarks that such sad accidents are due to the carelessness of the drivers. The Tramway Manager, Mr. Maples, should attend to the matter.

57. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 23rd February, says that the men and women who go to bathe in the river are put to great inconvenience on account of the electric lights on the Harrison road being put out at 5 A.M., an hour when it is yet dark. Budmashes sometimes take advantage of this darkness to annoy the passengers.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 23rd, 1893.

The lights on the Harrison Road.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

SUDHAKAR,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

58. The *Sudhakar*, of the 17th February, says that oppression by the zamindars has made the raiyats poor and miserable. They are thus unable to effect any improvement of their lands. But this oppression is not so much oppression committed by

Zamindar's oppression.

zamindars themselves as by their officers, who, though men on poor salaries, are yet known to make fortunes for themselves. The writer would particularly refer to Muhammadan zamindars, who are generally known to entrust the administration of their affairs in the hands of a manager. In such cases, the manager and his men make their fortunes by exactions from the raiyats, while the zamindar receives, as it were, only a fixed pension from them. Oppression by zamindars has reached its climax in Mymensingh.

59. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 22nd February, says that the Beldanga estate of the Murshidabad District. complaints are heard from the raiyats of the Maharani Swarnamayi's Beldanga estate in the Murshidabad district, to the effect that attempts are being made to attack their *mokrari* and *maurasi* rights, that the promises with which they were conciliated last year have not been kept, and that arrangements are being made for the institution of civil and criminal suits against them as in last year.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 22nd, 1893.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

60. The *Ulubaria Darpan*, of the 27th January, says that the Amta-Ulubaria Khal requires to be deepened. As it is, there remains so little water in the Khal during a neap tide that navigation by means of even *saltis* becomes extremely difficult.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,  
Jan. 27th, 1893.

61. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 17th February, complains of the inadequate number of intermediate and third class carriages which are attached to the train which leaves Sealdah for Diamond Harbour at 4-45 P. M. on every Saturday.

SULABA DAINIK,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

62. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, says that an old woman was run over by a train the other day in crossing the railway line near the Duttapukur station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway. The woman died some time after the accident, and not immediately. A gentleman undertook to bear the expense of medical assistance for the poor woman, but the station-master refused to call in a doctor till the police had come. The Lieutenant-Governor and the Manager of the Railway line should enquire why the gate was left open and why there was no one at the gate. It should also be enquired why medical assistance was not provided for the injured woman.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

(h)—*General.*

63. The *Ulubaria Darpan*, of the 27th January, says that this year the artillery practice in the Fulta Fort will commence on the 16th February, and reminds Government of its promise regarding the payment of compensation to the people who will be affected by the practice.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,  
Jan. 27th, 1893.

64. The same paper has the following:—  
The authorities are now bent on curtailing the powers of the High Court. Appeals to Parliament. The very fact that jury trial was abolished without expressly consulting that Court on the subject proves this. But the High Court has itself to blame for the position in which it now finds itself. If that Court had been presided over by a Chief Justice of Sir Barnes Peacock's type, no one would have easily succeeded in curtailing its powers. It is now the duty of all Indians to forget their differences and to make a united appeal to Parliament on the subject.

ULUBARIA DARPAN.

Sir Philip Hutchins' Cooly Bill, and the Habitual Offenders Bill are calculated to cause grave apprehensions, and the people ought to appeal to Parliament against these measures also.

65. The *Charuvarta*, of the 13th February, has the following:—

CHARUVARTA,  
Feb. 13th, 1893.

Sir Richard Garth, Sir Douglas Straight and several other eminent persons are of opinion that it is no longer advisable to keep the executive and judicial powers in the same hands. They also think that it is necessary that the people should have respect both for the executive and the judiciary, and that for this purpose the executive and judicial powers should be separated. It is hoped Lords Lansdowne will follow in the footsteps of Lords Cornwallis and Bentinck, and endear himself to the people by effecting the separation of the executive and judicial functions, and by taking into his favourable consideration the

suggestions that have been made in connection with the jury order by Sir Richard Garth and Sir Douglas Straight.

CHARUVARTA,  
Feb. 13th, 1893.

66. The same paper hopes that Sir Charles Elliott will make permanent the increase of pay by Re. 1 which has been granted temporarily to all menial servants of Government in the districts of Hooghly, Mymensingh, Rangpur, Darjeeling, and Monghyr, and in Calcutta, for with the general rise of prices their hardship threatens to become chronic.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 15th, 1893.

Some comments on the administration of India.

67. The *Sahachar*, of the 15th February has the following:—

English rule has conferred many blessings on this country. It has, among others, put an end to all internal troubles and dissensions, made life and property safe, and established a tolerably good system of administering civil and criminal justice. Under it education has made considerable progress; the people are coming to learn public spirit and patriotism; while the railways, by making the existence of the Congress possible, have very nearly fulfilled the prediction of Muhammad Ali, who was Chief Engineer to the Begum of Oudh in 1857, regarding the part which they were destined to play in the unification of India. In short the country has made much material progress under English rule. But much yet remains to be done. Within the last ten years the population of India has increased by three crores, and the question which has forced itself on the attention of the public is where will food for these additional mouths come from? The Government of India, which passes the best part of the year in the heights of Simla, has of late shown a strange indifference in the matter of grappling with questions, upon the satisfactory solution of which depends the well-being of the people confided to its care. It forgets that India is essentially an agricultural country, and that it is its first duty to improve its agriculture. Under Muhammadan rule, with the exception of the period succeeding the death of Alamgir, life and property were as safe as they are now, and the people had plenty of food to eat. The rulers in those days took a fixed portion of the produce of the soil as revenue, and so in times of famine the raiyats were exempted from all payment of revenue. But all this is changed now. The soil has lost much of its fertility, and famine has become permanent in the country, and yet Government is rigorous in realising its dues. Agricultural schools, the introduction of a scientific system of agriculture, a system of giving aid to agriculturists in times of need, and the excavation of irrigation canals have become necessities of the times. But the Government of India, ever busy with schemes for sending armies to Uetia, Gilgit, and Chitral, has no time to bestow upon such matters. As a consequence, British rule in India has degenerated into a military occupation of the country. The question now is will it not be better to have some scion of the Royal Family of England appointed as a permanent ruler of India instead of a Viceroy, who is a ticcadar for five years, and who, from the peculiar conditions of his office, cannot possibly feel the same interest in the people confided to his care as a permanent ruler would feel? Such a ruler would not hasten to Simla on the first advent of the hot season, lest the heat should tell upon his wife's health. It may be true, as Lord Lansdowne says, that the days spent at Simla are not a series of festivities, nevertheless there is such a thing as useless labour. The only objection to the appointment of a member of the Royal Family as a permanent ruler of India is that it will make India another Egypt, but this is unavoidable. The time for ruling the country on the *ticca* system is gone by, and that of giving it autonomy is come. The problem of Indian Administration is becoming more and more complex every day, and it is time something was done to meet the exigencies of the case.

SAHACHAR.

68. The same paper thinks, with the Anglo-Indian Defence Association, that an appeal should be made to Parliament against the attempt of the Indian authorities to rob the independence of Courts and to make them subservient to the executive. In a pamphlet issued by it, the Association has shown how the Madras Small Cause Courts' Act has had the effect of curtailing the powers of the Madras High Court. The Association's attempt in this direction is very opportune, and both the Native and the European community ought to convene a meeting for the purpose indicated by that body. An appeal to the House of Commons protesting against the attempt of

Government to curtail the powers of the High Courts and thus to jeopardise the liberty of the people is sure to produce some result.

69. The *Education Gazette*, of the 17th February, refers to the sanitary proposals made by the Hurdwar Committee and approved by the Government of the North-Western Provinces, and makes the following observations :—

EDUCATION GAZETTE,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

There can be no doubt that great good will result if these proposals are given effect to, and they will be successfully carried into effect if they can secure for themselves only a fraction of the zeal and perseverance which Government has shown in the matter of establishing Lady Dufferin hospitals in the country. It is the writer's conviction that the measures which Government is about to take with a view of improving the sanitation of Hurdwar are by no means less extensive or adequate than those which a Hindu ruler would have taken under the circumstances.

70. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, says that it has heard that the authorities have rejected the post peons' petition on the ground that the action of the peons in thus memariolising them is indicative of disloyalty and impertinence. The postal authorities are also said to have rebuked the man who signed the petition first. The authorities seem inclined to carry matters with a high hand, but that will be possible so long as people have not their eyes opened. It is reported that the peons will submit a fresh memorial.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

It behoves the authorities to listen to the representations of these public servants whose services can not be too highly valued, and who can put the public and Government to the greatest inconvenience by striking work even for a day.

71. The same paper says that Lord Lansdowne should have pointed out to the deputation of the Currency Association that the closing of the mints to the free coinage of silver will further depreciate the value of that metal. The measure may indeed for a time artificially raise the value of silver, but in the long run it will have the opposite effect. The closing of the mints may also encourage the forging of false coins. The proposals of the Currency Association cannot therefore be accepted.

BANGAVASI.

72. The same paper says that a very large percentage of sentences passed by the Magistracy are reversed by the High Court and the Sessions Courts. Indeed, from the record of appeal cases, it is clear that but for the existence of the High Court and the Sessions Courts, there would have been a failure of justice in a very large number of cases tried by the Magistrates. The action of the High Court has, however, wounded the feelings of the Magistracy and the general body of the executive officers of Government. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore has set himself to curb the authority of the High Court and increase the power of the executive, or in other words, to give larger powers to the executive for dispensing justice according to their whims. Sir Charles Elliott is not the first Lieutenant-Governor who has addressed himself to this task. It was in the time of Sir Rivers Thompson that the executive first set up an agitation against the powers of the High Court. The agitation was continued during Sir Stuart Bayley's régime, and it was under his Government that Mr. Phillips was removed from the Secretariat for making unfavourable comments upon the High Court Judges. Mr. Phillips and a set of highhanded civilians like him have now found their opportunity, for Sir Charles Elliott is anxious to curtail the powers of the High Court. The first step taken by His Honour in this direction is the abolition of the jury system, which is so much valued by the people. Next, he has taken measures for making his authority felt by the judiciary, whom he wants to be completely subject to his control. He rebukes judicial officers when they do not carry out his wishes. These officers are quite helpless in the matter, and they have not received any assistance from the High Court. The executive has taken advantage of this, and the administration of the province has now gone from bad to worse. Their victory over the subordinate judiciary has emboldened the executive to declare a *jehad* against the High Court itself. The High Court has, therefore, referred the matter to the Secretary

BANGAVASI.

of State, who, it is hoped, will take this opportunity of completely separating the judicial and the executive functions of Government.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

73. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 18th February, says that it is rumoured that the Lieutenant-Governor has at last come to see the hastiness of his decision in the Mymensingh case, and that this has something to do with His Honour's intention to go on leave. The writer would advise His Honour not to go away at such a time, but to remain in the midst of his loving subjects and confess his error to them.

The Lieutenant-Governor on the Mymensingh case.

SULABH DAINIK.

74. Referring to the cooly case which is pending before the Sealdah Police Court, the same paper asks if the British Government, which leaves no stone unturned to

A cooly case.

suppress slave trade in foreign dominions, will allow the *arkatis* to have their own way in India, specially when they are invading even Hindu *zananas*.

BANGAVASI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

75. The *Bangavasi*, of the 18th February, says that free coinage of silver in the Indian mints should on no account be stopped or restricted, inasmuch as such stoppage

The exchange question.

or restriction would, by reducing the amount of silver coins in currency, necessitate the use of gold coins. The writer cannot also support the proposal to introduce a silver currency upon a gold standard, for a gold standard will surely necessitate a gold currency too. Besides, a gold standard will further depreciate silver and thus bring to the surface other difficulties which do not at present exist. The introduction of a gold standard is, for instance, extremely likely to import the labour question and the evils of socialism, nihilism, &c., into this country. India will thus have to face not only monetary but also political difficulties. The existing troubles will not disappear until England adopts a bi-metallic currency. What will benefit only the English merchants or the English officials in India will not improve the situation. Nor will the country obtain the relief it requires from any arrangement which may remove the difficulty of the Government of India in making its home remittances. Any abrupt or temporary remedy will only aggravate matters. Let the Government wait patiently till England sees her way to the introduction of a bi-metallic currency, which is the only solution of the existing difficulty.

BANGAVASI.

76. The same paper says that the postal authorities were extremely vexed by the petition which was submitted by the post peons of Calcutta, and it is said that they rebuked those peons whose names were at the top of the

The Calcutta post peons' memorial.

petition. Considering that the peons did not noise about their grievances, but humbly sought redress by a memorial to their official superiors, the action of the postal authorities cannot be said to have been right. The petitioners did what they could to maintain the prestige of their superiors, but the latter themselves have failed to do it.

SARASWAT PATRA,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

77. The *Saraswat Patra*, of the 18th February, says that though the adoption of a gold standard for India may benefit the Anglo-Indian officials and some English mer-

The exchange question.

chants, it will not remove the financial difficulty of Government, nor confer any benefit on the people of this country. The only solution of the present exchange difficulty, that will be acceptable to all parties, will be found in the adoption of a bi-metallic currency by England, which can only be secured if Government, the Anglo-Indians, and the people of this country make an united effort unto this end. The writer does not believe that this is an impossibility. At least, it will not be an impossibility if the English people act with their habitual liberality and the Indians with their habitual loyalty and love of peace.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

78. The *Sanjivani*, of the 18th February, says that Babu Brajendranath Chatterji of Juniadaha submitted a memorial to Messrs. Watson and Co. on behalf of the raiyats of Juniadaha. But not receiving any reply, he next

The petition of the raiyats of Juniadaha in the Nadia district.

submitted a copy of that memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor, who ordered an enquiry to be made into the grievances set forth in the document. Accordingly Babu Rajani Nath Chatterji, Sub-divisional Officer of Kushtia, arrived at Juniadaha at 9 A. M. on the 12th February last for the purpose of holding a

local enquiry. He took his seat in a shop in Hatkhola, and the general body of raiyats not being present, as no notice of the enquiry was given before, the Sub-divisional Officer examined only the raiyats who were placed before him by the amla of Messrs Watson and Co. The enquiry was thus of a most unsatisfactory character. In fact, it was concluded in an hour, though there are some five or six hundred raiyats in Juniadaha. Considering that the dewan of Messrs. Watson and Co.'s factory was present throughout the enquiry in order to overawe the raiyats, and that raiyats picked out by men of the factory were alone examined, it is clear that the enquiry was a farce. It is hoped that Government will refuse to be satisfied with it, but order the District Magistrate or some other officer to hold another and a fuller investigation. In the meantime the raiyats of Juniadaha should submit another petition to Government drawing its attention to their grievances.

79. The same paper says that in his review of the condition of the people of Bengal, Mr. Skrine has failed to notice the growing misery and poverty of the people, though he has admitted that Chittagong, which even up to the beginning of the present century, was famous for its ship-building business, seems to be gradually losing it. How would then Mr. Skrine reconcile the statements that the Trade, the Commerce and the industries of the country show a decline, and that the people are yet prosperous?

80. The *Prakriti*, of the 18th February, thinks that Government ought to grant the prayer of the Bhagalpur pleaders, viz., that the age restriction should be relaxed in the case of such of them as are willing to appear at the Sub-ordinate Executive Service Examination. These men have a knowledge of the law and are conversant with Court business. They therefore deserve the indulgence asked for.

81. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, says that the abolition of the silver currency of the country or the adoption of a gold standard will, instead of diminishing, rather increase the Exchange difficulty. The difficulty will not be solved so long as England does not adopt a bi-metallic currency.

82. The same paper refers to the punishment of a Police Inspector in Ireland for having opposed a Sheriff's proclamation at the order of the Chief Secretary or Under-Secretary. This is enough to show the difference between England and India. If a Police Inspector in Bengal had disobeyed the order of a law-court at the bidding of the Lieutenant-Governor or even of a Magistrate, to say nothing of punishment, he would not have even been placed on his trial. While in Bengal there is profound peace, disorder and discontent prevail in Ireland, and yet the law is being so firmly upheld and executive despotism so firmly checked in that country.

83. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 21st February, says that the English Government in this country does not seem to appreciate the universally accepted principle of Government that it is the duty of the ruler to attend to the interests of the ruled. It is because Government does not appreciate this principle that it does not listen to the plaintive cries of the Indians. The ancient Hindu kings used to keep spies who used to report to them the feelings of the people; but the English Government does not care to learn the state of the country. It wants to delude the people with external splendour and to deceive them with toys. It has indeed facilitated locomotion by constructing railways, but these railways have proved an easy means for the export of the food-grains of this country at a time when the soil yields less produce and when there is in consequence frequent distress. It is because Government does not look to the interest of the people that they have to suffer so much.

Again, Government burdens the people with heavy taxation without considering whether it is possible for them to bear the burden. The people are ready by all means to help Government with money, but how can they bear burdens which are too heavy for them? The English Government is also teaching the people luxury and hypocrisy by introducing English civilization into the country, and the result is that the people do not feel for one another as before.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

PRAKRITI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,

SULABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

In the name of public interest Government is oppressing them in various ways. Government has certainly abolished jury trial in the belief that the measure will be for the good of the people, but it unfortunately produced the very opposite result. The system of criminal trial, though introduced with a good object, has proved an engine of oppression.

The country is also being ruined by the sale of wine day and night, but Government pays no heed to this.

It matters little, it is true, to the English Government whether the Indians are prosperous or the reverse, but it should remember that her Indian Empire is the Crown of England's glory.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 23rd, 1893.

84. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 23rd February, says that, Mr. Skrine's Decennial Report in his Decennial Report, Mr. Skrine has depicted the condition of Bengal in rosy colours. He had to write nothing new, but simply to put together the statements which are made by the officials in their annual reports. Even Sir William Hunter had to admit that one-half of the population of Bengal cannot get two meals daily, while one-fourth of the population altogether go without food. But according to Mr. Skrine there are only 11 lakhs beggars in Bengal. This is a mistake, for Mr. Skrine should have known that the number of beggars in the country is much larger than that given in the census reports. Those who cannot procure two full meals a day must be classed as beggars.

The exportation of food-grains drains the country of its food-supply and makes famines frequent, while the importation of European goods makes the people luxurious and extravagant, and yet it is said in the report that the condition of the country is improving. Unrestricted importation of European goods is also ruining indigenous arts and manufactures, and converting artisans into agriculturists or labourers, the railways are draining the country of its food-supply, and the canals are destroying the fertility of the soil, and yet it is said in the report that the condition of the people is improving. The people are starving for want of food, and the use of umbrellas and carpet bags is no proof of their happiness and prosperity. Those who know the real condition of the people are firmly convinced of their growing poverty. He who knows the poverty of the Indians under British rule, and yet tries to conceal the fact, is not a friend, but an enemy of both England and India. The Indians will have to explain to the English public whether or not the statements made in Mr. Skrine's report are true. If the Congress really wants to do good to the country, it ought to enlighten the people of England on the subject.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

85. The same paper says that Babu Kisori Mohan Chatterji ought to be appointed to the Second Judgeship of the Calcutta Small Cause Court in place of Mr. McEwen, who is about to retire. Mr. Chatterji is a man of learning and a Barrister of standing, and has been discharging with ability the duties of his present post. The writer will be sorry to see the post given to an outsider, be he a Barrister either with or without practice. Mr. Ormond, who has been named as a possible successor of Mr. McEwen, may be a learned man and may enjoy official patronage, but he is certainly not more learned or eligible for the post than Mr. Chatterji.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,  
Jan. 27th, 1893.

86. The *Ulubaria Darpan*, of the 27th January, makes the following observations on the Habitual Offenders Bill:—

The Habitual Offenders Bill. Government apparently thinks its police officers to be impersonations of justice, or it would not have thought of making over the peace and the happiness of half the population of the country to the custody of those officers. That the passing of the Habitual Offenders Bill will largely increase police oppression will be clear from the following story:—Mr. Schurr, who was District Superintendent of Howrah three years ago, was very hard on ex-convicts, and required all officers under him to collect information regarding them. On one occasion, the writer stopped for the night in a place near Uluberia. He was startled at midnight by cries of agony proceeding from the house of a Chandal who was once convicted for theft. On going to the spot he learnt that as the chaukidar called the name of the ex-convict, he came out of his room and went to meet him at the back

of his house. But the chaukidar thought that the man was absent from his house and was coming in haste from where he had gone for a bad purpose; he then gave him a thrashing and the man was crying in agony. The passing of the Bill will increase police oppression and make the police even more corrupt than it is now.

87. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th February, has the following on the Habitual Offenders Bill:—

BURDWAN SANJIVAN,  
Feb. 14th, 1893.

The Habitual Offender Bill.

Under the proposed law, men who will have the misfortune of being twice convicted by a court of justice will have to pass their lives in jails in the company of thieves and badmashes without ever getting an opportunity of reforming themselves. Thus, if the Bill is passed, it will have the effect of increasing jail population and police oppression. Moreover, the authorities should bear in mind in this connection that the object of the law ought to be, not simply to punish the wicked, but also to convert them into honest citizens, and that the first principle of the administration ought not simply to be to deprive bad characters of their personal liberty.

The proposed cooly-law.

88. The *Hitavadi*, of the 16th February, has the following:—

HITAVADI,  
Feb. 16th, 1893.

The jury right is gone, the panchayets have ceased to exist, and there is no knowing what more is in store for the people. In the meantime, it is not easy to say how the lot of the unfortunate coolies in the tea-gardens will be affected by the Cooly Bill, which has been drafted by that enemy of the natives, Sir Philip Hutchins. He is apparently not satisfied with taking away the inmemorial rights of the people, and has now cast his auspicious glance upon the unfortunate coolies. In the preamble to the Bill, Sir Philip has said that the condition of the coolies in the tea-gardens is better than that of the local population. But before criticising the provisions of the Bill, the writer will prove that the condition of the coolies in the tea-gardens is decidedly worse than that of the local population.

Mr. Porteus's description of the miserable condition of the coolies in the Kasimganj tea-garden is then quoted by way of corroborating the above statement; and it is remarked that the condition of coolies in nearly all the tea-gardens of Assam is very much the same as in the Kasimganj garden, and that the high rate of mortality among the coolies is owing to this deplorable state of things. Insufficient diet, sometimes downright starvation, insanitary surroundings, over-work, even during illness, are the courses which lead to untimely deaths among the coolies, and yet Sir Philip says in the preamble to his Bill that they are better off than the local population, and from the statement in the preamble one can easily see what is the secret object of the new measure.

89. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, says that the Hon'ble Sir Philip Hutchins' speech introducing the Habitual

The Habitual Offenders Bill.

Offenders Bill in Council has struck everybody

dumb. It is said that Sir Charles Elliott was not satisfied with the Bill, and proposed to insert in it a section empowering the police to deal with an habitual offender as soon as he is brought up for trial, even before he is tried and convicted. If any such power is really given to the police, their oppression will reach its utmost limits. Fortunately the Viceroy has disallowed his Honour's proposal. The Lieutenant-Governor seems to be strongly disposed to increase the punishment of criminals.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

90. Referring to the reply given by the Under-Secretary of State for

Mr. Naoroji and the rules framed under the Indian Councils Act.

India to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji's request for a previous publication of the rules to be framed under the new Indian Councils Act, the *Sanjivani*, of the

18th February, says that Mr. Russell could refuse Mr. Naoroji's request only because it had reference to a law affecting India. If he had given such a reply to a similar request regarding any legislation for the English people, all England would have been in a ferment to-day. The fact is, whether the Liberals or the Conservatives are in power, it is all one to India.

SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

91. The *Prakriti*, of the 18th February, says that, notwithstanding all the

Proposal for a Cooly Commission.

attempts of Government to put down cooly oppression, that oppression is increasing. This is due either to faulty laws or to their faulty administra-

PRAKRITI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

tion, or to the inadequacy of the sentences passed on the offenders against those laws. Be that as it may, the fact remains that the coolies have not yet materially benefited by the measures which Government has taken for their benefit. It is therefore desirable that a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the grievances of the coolies and take the evidence of both natives and Europeans.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Feb. 19th, 1893.

92. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 19th February, says that at the time of the Permanent Settlement there was not a single non-paying mahal. Many mahals, nevertheless, became non-paying directly they came into the possession of Government through auction sale. This is owing to the fraudulent occupation by powerful zamindars of lands belonging to those mahals. The present law of limitation, under which 12 years' dispossession is sufficient to bar one's right in a piece of land, favours this fraudulent practice; for it is the easiest thing for a powerful zamindar to get people to swear to his undisturbed possession for twelve years. But now that the thak survey has been completed in a good many mahals, and all particulars relating to the ownership and the boundaries of those mahals have been settled once for all, these mahals may, without disadvantage, be exempted from the operation of the limitation law, provided there be no Civil Court decisions against the thak survey thereof. In such cases no continued dispossession for 12 years will be a bar to the proprietary right. If this is done, both Government and petty zamindars will be saved the loss which they now incur in consequence of the operation of the above law.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 19th, 1893.

93. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 19th February, says that in replying to the question of the Maharaja of Bhinga, Sir Philip Hutchins has admitted that the Maharaja's statements are partly true. The present rules only permit the asking of questions, and no debate in connection with those questions. But half a loaf is better than no bread.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 20th, 1893.

94. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 20th February, says that it would not be fair to lay, as it is proposed to do, the whole burden of the cost of maintaining the Calcutta Fire-brigade upon the rate-payers of the town with a view to relieve the proprietors of jute-mills. On the contrary, the greater portion of that cost should be borne by the proprietors of jute-mills whose trade is most exposed to the risk of fires.

DARUSSALTANAT  
AND URDU GUIDE,  
Feb. 20th 1893.

95. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide*, of the 20th February, says that Sir Philip Hutchins' denial of the existence of the grievance complained of in the Raja of Bhinga's question, shows that the Hon'ble Member does not know how supplies of provisions for officials on tour are obtained. It is not the shop-keepers but the zamindars and their men who are dealt with unjustly in the matter. The zamindars are asked to make the supply, but when their men come to ask for the price, the police generally manage to send them away without making any payment. The vernacular press has repeatedly drawn the attention of Government to the matter. Why Government has taken no notice of the representations made in that press seems, however, a mystery.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Feb. 21st, 1893.

96. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 21st February, agrees with Lord Macaulay in thinking that Judges whose business it is to interpret and enforce laws should be allowed seats on the Legislative Councils. The writer therefore recommends that Judges of the different High Courts should be appointed to the Legislative Councils of their respective provinces.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

ULUBARIA DARPAN,  
Jan. 27th, 1893.

97. The *Ulubaria Darpan*, of the 27th January, apprehends scarcity in that sub-division this year. Unlike other years, the price of rice did not decrease in the month of Magh this year, nay, it has gone on increasing month after month; and unless Government stops the exportation of rice from this time, it will be impossible to procure it after a few days.

98. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, says that the people of Taildwar Mahal in Sylhet are suffering from great scarcity of water. The Sylhet Municipality is unfortunately quite indifferent in the matter.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

Cholera is raging violently in Atnajan pargana in the Sylhet district.

Scarcity of water and the outbreak of cholera in the Sylhet district.

99. The *Samaj-o-Sahitya*, of the 19th February, fears that there will be a fearful scarcity of water this year in many parts of the country, and says that Government should therefore adopt remedial measures from this time.

SOMAJ-O-SAHITYA,  
Feb. 19th, 1893.

An apprehended water scarcity in the country.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

100. The *Charuvarta*, of the 13th February, is glad to learn that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress now writes her diary in the Hindi language, and wishes her a long life.

CHARUVARTA,  
Feb. 13th, 1893.

The Queen-Empress's Hindi diary.

A case of zamindari oppression in the Singbhum district.

101. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 13th February, has the following:—

People who live in the metropolis of British India, and are only conversant with the way it is governed, are apt to fall into a great mistake when they judge of the government of the whole country by their own limited experience. Even at the present moment, there are places in British India, where people can scarcely conceive themselves as living under British rule. Although under that rule there is apparently peace; all over the country; yet there are many places in British India where the gravest disorder still prevails. Such, for instance, are the non-regulation provinces, where there are no fixed code of laws, no regularly constituted courts, and no impartial dispensation of justice; where government's will is law, and the fate of the people depends on the good or ill will of the authorities. Indeed, the life of a subject is not worth living in these provinces. The following case of oppression occurred in Singbhum in the non-regulation province of Chota Nagpur.

Pargana Kharsan in the Singbhum district is the property of Thakur Mahendra Narayan Sinha. The village Santari in this pargana was granted in perpetuity by Thakur Padmanabh Sinha, the first man of the Thakur family who settled in Kharsan, to one Gopinath Dit and his heirs, at a nominal rent of Rs. 18-6 per annum, on condition that Gopinath and his heirs shall always give to the Thakur family their services as retainers. Though the heirs of Gopinath Dit have always rendered and are still willing to render to the Thakurs the services mentioned in the grant, Mr. Samuell, Deputy Commissioner of Singbhum, who was the Court of Wards' Manager of the estate during Thakur Mahendra Narayan's minority, suddenly increased the rent to Rs. 200 on the plea that the Thakurs no longer wanted the services of the Dits as retainers, and that they should therefore pay the full rent for the lands they enjoyed. The Dits refusing to pay the enhanced rent were cast into prison by Mr. Samuell, and were detained there till they promised to pay the required rent, and accepted new *pattas*, embodying the new conditions. On their release, however, they refused to execute the conditions of the *pattas*, and Mr. Samuell accordingly had all the standing crops on their lands cut and taken away. It was only on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Ranchi that a portion of these crops was returned. In the Bengali year 1298, Mahendra Narayan took the management of his estate into his own hand, and demanded the enhanced rent from the Dits. On their refusal to pay it, Mahendra Narayan removed the standing crops and ultimately evicted them from their lands. The Dits submitted a memorial to the Deputy Commissioner of Singbhum, but to no purpose. They have also memorialised the Lieutenant-Governor, but as yet have obtained no reply to their memorial.

After the decision of the Privy Council in the case of Lilananda *versus* Mahendra Narayan Thakur, there can be no doubt as to the right of the Dits to enjoy the land at the rent fixed in the original grant, and it is hoped Government will do justice in the matter. If oppressions like the above are allowed to go unchecked, the good name of the British Government is sure to suffer.

102. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 14th February, justifies, on sanitary grounds, the order of the Magistrate of Burdwan prohibiting religious fairs in certain parts of the district. These fairs are the hot-beds of cholera, and as it

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Feb. 14th, 1893.

The prohibiting of the religious fairs in the district of Burdwan.

is impossible to make such satisfactory sanitary arrangements at these fairs as will prevent outbreaks of that disease, it is better to prohibit them altogether than to allow people to die by hundreds and thousands of cholera contracted at such gatherings. Government will be perfectly justified in closing all religious fairs in the same way as it has prohibited the burning of the widows in the funeral pyres of their husbands, the throwing of children into the Ganges, and such like practices.

SAHACHAR,  
Feb. 15th, 1893.

103. The *Sáháchár*, of the 15th February, says that the Maharani has shown in more ways than one that Her Majesty Queen-Empress in person. really loves her Indian subjects. She has pardoned Maharaja Dhulip Singh, even though he gave so many causes of offence and has settled a pension on him. She likes her Indian servants very much. She expressed joy at the return of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji to Parliament. The people of this country in their turn deeply venerate her. The existence of such feelings between the Sovereign and her subjects has led many to think that it will be well if the country is governed by the Queen-Empress direct, for both England and India will benefit by the arrangement. But then an arrangement like that is very difficult of attainment.

SAHACHAR.

Nepal Gazi on the increased pay demanded by the European officials of Government.

104. Nepal Gazi, the same paper's humourist, has the following:—

European officials of Government went up to Lord Lansdowne and said that in consequence of the falling rupee, they could get nothing to eat. In no country in the world are the officials of Government paid so highly, and yet these people say they can get nothing to eat. They said that if their salaries were increased the people of the country would also be benefited by the measure. Lord Lansdowne replied yes, their grievance was a real one, but than what was to be done? Why, increase the taxes and give them increase of salary by that means. For, in that case, the officials will be able to enjoy themselves on fowls and brandy. The good of the people is also mixed up with this. It is an act of philanthropy on their part to make such professions. But if the people do not admit this and make a grievance of it, they will simply prove themselves to be fools, for they cannot see where their good lies. It is for this reason that Government cannot entrust them with any difficult or responsible work.

BANGANIVASI,  
Feb. 17th, 1893.

105. The *Banganivasi*, of the 17th February, cannot believe the statement made by a correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* to the effect that Sir Charles Elliott means to prosecute those among the principal vernacular newspapers which published seditious articles in connection with the jury notification. If, however, the statement has any basis in fact, the writer can scarcely speak well of Sir Charles' judgment.

BANGAVASI,  
Feb. 18th, 1893.

106. Referring to the students' party given at Belvedere, the *Bangavasi*, of the 18th February, says that when bidding farewell to His Honour, the students gave repeated cheers for him. Such a sight is only possible in Bengal,—the boys giving cheers for a Governor whose discomfiture is heartily wished by their parents.

SAMAJ-O-SAHITYA,  
Feb. 19th, 1893.

The officials and the condition of the country.

107. The *Samaj-o-Sahitya*, of the 19th February, has the following:—

From a fear of losing their own health the officials do not visit villages and often perform the work of mufassal inspection remaining in some town or its suburbs. Such shirking of duty on their part is a very frequent thing under our Sovereign's rule. The duties which the sovereign has imposed upon the officials with a view of promoting our happiness are either shirked or performed vicariously. As for ourselves, we are perfectly helpless.

It is true that it is impossible for a single individual to attend to the affairs of so many countries. But the sovereign is not like a common individual. Our Sovereign is an incarnation of Sakti, and she has a thousand eyes and a thousand ears. How is it then that our sufferings are not removed? The reason is that the work of looking to our welfare has been left to the officials, and that the life of an Indian is considered of no value.

Our happiness would have been almost unlimited if the officials who have such intimate relations with the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor had been kind and friendly to us. But owing to our misfortune these officials are very ill-disposed towards us, and cannot bear to see any improvement in our condition.

The villages in this country are worse than those of any other, and may be said to be so many veritable hells. In these villages there are no good roads, no good ghats, no good water, no drains, while the road cess, the chaukidari cess, and in some cases the water-rate are the only things that are to be found there. Since the towns owe all their wealth and splendour to the villages, the condition of these latter should be improved. But their improvement will not be effected either by Rajas, Roy Bahadurs and Nawab Bahadurs, or by English officials. No improvement will take place in the condition of the people or the country if these men are appointed members of the Legislative Councils and the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor act upon their advice in every matter.

It is upon their advice that the sovereign and her representatives conduct the work of administration. But these men know nothing of why there is failure of crops and why there is so much disease in the country.

That the villages in the Indian Empire of mother Victoria have become so many cremation grounds, is only because everything is done at the advice of these men. The people are dying of hunger and disease. The country does not possess a sufficiently large number of *khals* and *beels* which can retain the rainwater, and there is in consequence failure of crops. The people also lose their health from drinking the foul water of old tanks, *beels* and *khals*. They have no vigour in their limbs, no strength in their minds and are, as it were, withering away.

Respectable men get small salaries which are hardly sufficient for their needs. They cannot, therefore, resist temptation and commit forgeries and practise cheating.

Unable to maintain themselves and their families, many people are putting an end to their own lives by suicide. Husbands are unable to feed wives and the latter therefore are taking to prostitution. For want of money, food and shelter, there is no harmony between father and son, no love between husband and wife, and no affection between brother and sister. The country is being ruined by quarrels and dissensions, and thieves, dacoits and badmashes are increasing in number.

We have become an eyesore to the officials. Will not the incarnation of Sakti, mother Victoria, help us in any way? Shall we always remain helpless?

Our Sovereign can improve the condition of the villages by entrusting the task to such among the villagers who have education and are acquainted with their needs. They are really worthy men, and very good results will be produced if the officials mix with them, and take their advice in every measure designed for the good of the country.

108. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 22nd February, says that the gentle Indian Government officials and the people are truly loyal to the English Government.

That Government, however, is distrustful of their loyalty. Self-interest is no doubt the cause of this distrust. The laws of the Government are rigorous, and under these laws the officials and the common subjects are placed on one and the same footing. But this is unbearable to haughty officials, and they often do things which prove very injurious to the public. The meek Indian people do not know how to return blow for blow, and they have, therefore, no other recourse than to wail loudly. This loud wail often attracts the attention of the Government itself and makes it eager to redress the grievance of the people. But the friends of the guilty officials give Government to understand that it is the people who are to blame and not the officials.

NÁRÁYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

*Officiating Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

*The 25th February 1893.*

SUTABH DAINIK,  
Feb. 22nd, 1893.

